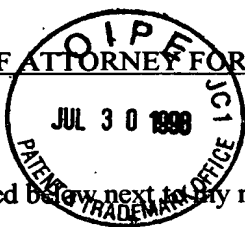


#3

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A VEHICLE FRAME ASSEMBLY INCLUDING
HYDROFORMED SIDE RAILS HAVING INTEGRALLY FORMED MOUNTING AREAS**

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☒ was filed on February 19, 1998 as U.S. Application Number or PCT International Application Number 09/025,531 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Application(s) | | | Priority Claimed | |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------|-------|
| (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | Yes | No |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | Yes | No |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| (Application No.) | (Filing Date) |
|-------------------|---------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| (Application No.) | (Filing Date) |
| _____ | _____ |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| (Application No.) | (Filing Date) | (status - patented, pending, abandoned) |
|-------------------|---------------|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith with full power of substitution and revocation: Richard S. MacMillan, Reg. No. 30,085; Mark J. Sobanski, Reg. No. 29,700; Oliver E. Todd, Jr., Reg. No. 24,746; Ted C. Gillespie, Reg. No. 27,981; Donald R. Fraser, Reg. No. 17,919; William J. Clemens, Reg. No. 26,855; A. Michael Tucker, Reg. No. 32,539; Gary M. Sutter, Reg. No. 31,574; John B. Molnar, Reg. No. 31,914; Douglas V. Pavelko, Reg. No. 36,888; Allen W. Inks, Reg. No. 37,358; Thedford I. Hitaffer, Reg. No. 38,490; Scott A. Blake, Reg. No. 40,515; Robert M. Leonardi, Reg. No. 27,815; and Frank B. McDonald, Reg. No. 28,738.

Address all telephone calls to Richard S. MacMillan at (419) 255-5900.

Address all correspondence to MacMillan, Sobanski & Todd, LLC, One Maritime Plaza, Fourth Floor, 720 Water Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: John A. Beckman

Inventor's signature *John A. Beckman* Date: 5-7-98

Residence: 550 Russell Street, Wernersville, Pennsylvania 19565

Citizenship: U.S.A. Post Office Address: Same

Full name of second inventor: _____

Inventor's signature _____ Date: _____

Residence: _____

Citizenship: _____ Post Office Address: _____

Full name of third inventor: _____

Inventor's signature _____ Date: _____

Residence: _____

Citizenship: _____ Post Office Address: _____

Full name of fourth inventor: _____

Inventor's signature _____ Date: _____

Residence: _____

Citizenship: _____ Post Office Address: _____